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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Martin W. Masters et al.

Docket No.: 2001P16282 US

Serial No.: 09/944,314

Group Art Unit: 2644

Filed: August 31, 2001

Title: Processes for Texturing the Surface of a Hearing Instrument

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail on the below-indicated date in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Date

Mark H. Jay  
Reg. No. 27,507

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
P.O.Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.56

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents cited on a European Search Report (ESR) dated July 25, 2003. The ESR was issued in European Application No. EP 02 25 6046, which is a foreign counterpart to the above-identified patent application. A copy of the listed documents and of the ESR is submitted to comply with the duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, and in accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR §§ 1.97-1.98.

The submission of the enclosed documents is not an admission that any enclosed document is prior art. Applicant may hereafter take action to remove as a competent reference any document enclosed herewith.

10/14/2003 AMB11 00000095 192179 09944314  
01 FC:1806 180.00 EA

**CONCISE EXPLANATION OF  
RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT**

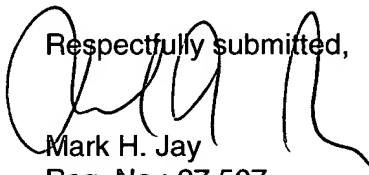
An English-language version of the ESR has been submitted herewith. Accordingly, no further explanation is required by 37 C.F.R. §1.98 or by M.P.E.P. §609A (3). Applicant respectfully requests that the listed documents be made of record in this application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with M.P.E.P. §609.

**CERTIFICATION**

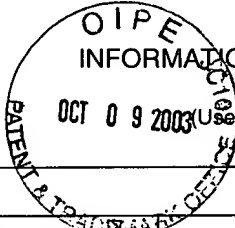
The undersigned certifies that each and every item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the statement.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee of \$180.00 as specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) and any additional fees due in connection with this paper or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-2179. Two additional copies of this sheet are enclosed.

Date: 7-0-03

Respectfully submitted,  
  
Mark H. Jay  
Reg. No.: 27,507

Siemens Corporation  
Intellectual Property Department  
186 Wood Avenue South  
Iselin, NJ 08830  
Tel.No.: +1 (732) 321 3019

Form PTO - 1449		U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office		Atty. Docket No. 2001P16282 US		Serial No. 09/944,314	
<div><p>Use several sheets if necessary)</p></div>				Applicant Martin W. Masters			
				Filing Date August 31, 2001		Group 2644	
U.S. Patent Documents							
Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if appropriate	
	5,321,757	6/14/94	Woodfill, Jr.	381	68		
	5,694,475	12/02/97	Boyden	381	68.5		
	5,654,530	8/05/97	Sauer et al.	181	130		
Foreign Patent Documents							
	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
	WO 93/25053	12/09/93	PCT				
Other Prior Art (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
	Patent Abstracts of Japan vol. 017, no. 383 (E-1400), 19 July 1993 (1993-07-19) & JP 05 064296 A (Terumo Corp), 12 March 1993 (1993-03-12) Abstract						
	European Search Report						
Examiner				Date Considered			